

BEFORE  
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
DOCKET NO. 98-261-C - ORDER NO. 98-457

JUNE 18, 1998

IN RE: Application of MCImetro Access	)	ORDER
Transmission Services, Inc. for Approval of	)	GRANTING
Merger into MCImetro Access Transmission	)	MERGER
Services LLC.		

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the Application of MCImetro Access Transmission Services, Inc. (MCImetro, Inc.) for approval of its merger into MCImetro Access Transmission Services, LLC (MCImetro, LLC) (together, the Companies).

The Commission's Executive Director instructed MCImetro Access Transmission Services, Inc. to publish a Notice of Filing in newspapers of general circulation one time, in order to give the public an opportunity to participate in the proceedings. That company filed an affidavit showing that they had complied with the instructions of the Executive Director. No Protests or Petitions to Intervene were received.

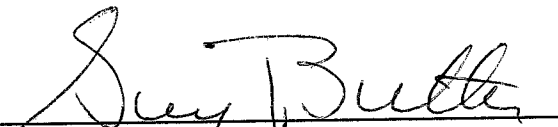
MCImetro, Inc. then moved for expedited review of the merger Application, and furnished the verified testimony of Greg Darnell, Regional Manager of Competition Policy. S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-9-310 (Supp. 1997) requires that mergers may be granted by this Commission after "due hearing." We hereby hold that, since no Protests or Petitions to Intervene were filed in this case, that the June 16, 1998 Commission

meeting will constitute the “due hearing” in this case, at which time the Application of MCImetro, Inc. was considered in an open meeting. Expedited review is granted.

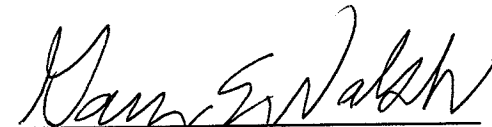
The verified testimony of Greg Darnell showed that the proposed merger will allow the Companies to receive certain state tax benefits. The manner in which the two Companies conduct business will not change as a result of the proposed reorganization. The officers will not change. No South Carolina customers will be affected, since no customers are currently in South Carolina.

Based on the verified testimony of Greg Darnell, we hereby approve the merger of MCImetro Access Transmission Services, Inc. into MCImetro Access Transmission Services, LLC. This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

  
Chairman

ATTEST:

  
Deputy Executive Director

(SEAL)